

UTTOXETER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health
and of the Senior Public
Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1959



NOVEMBER, 1960

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Senior Public Health Inspector :

A. F. WARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector :

H. NUTTER, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

SURVEYOR

H. W. PUGHE

ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Holly Dene,
High Street,
Uttoxeter.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Uttoxeter Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report on the health of Uttoxeter Rural District for the year 1959. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/60.

The vital statistics for 1959 showed some variation from those for 1958. The birth rate dropped a little while the death rate rose slightly, but these variations are not of particular significance, and the mortality rates compare very favourably with those of the country as a whole. The reduction in the stillbirth rate to 0.17 is worthy of comment. The figures for the previous year were nine stillbirths out of 195 births, live and still. The corresponding figures for 1959 were 2 and 176—a gratifying reduction in the number of stillbirths.

In the annual report for the year 1958 reference was made to the rainy summer. During 1959 there was no lack of sunshine. Sometimes it has seemed as if the hot summers which one tends to associate with one's childhood must have been exaggerated in our memory like other past delights, but in the summer of 1959 we enjoyed again a succession of long, hot, sunny days. Unfortunately such glorious weather did bring disadvantages—flies abounded, food quickly turned sour, and ditches, ordinarily satisfactory, became offensive. But while gardens and crops wilted, ice cream vendors did a roaring trade, refrigerator sales soared and our children became as brown as berries.

What did all this add up to in the terms of the health of the community?

The danger of fly-borne diseases such as food poisoning and dysentery, of course, was increased, but a glance at the table of infectious diseases on page 12 will show that in this district there was only one notified case of dysentery and none of food poisoning.

We are led to believe that hot, dry climatic conditions also predispose to the spread of poliomyelitis. The Uttoxeter Rural District was fortunate in not having a confirmed case.

One cannot ascribe the absence of the disease in this district to the fact that many of our children and young people were pro-

tected against it in 1959, but there would seem to be statistical significance in the reduction of cases of poliomyelitis in the country as a whole.

There was, however, an epidemic of measles, a disease which tends to show regularly recurring peaks of incidence independent of weather conditions. This epidemic is discussed more fully in the appropriate section of the report.

Analysis of the causes of death does not reveal an increase in the mortality figures of any particular disease which is directly attributable to the hot weather, although hot, dry climatic conditions can be exhausting, particularly for the elderly. There was an increase in the total number of deaths in the district for 1959 compared with previous years, but this increase does not represent a significantly raised mortality in any particular disease.

With regard to the environmental services in your district although no schemes were completed during the year work was commenced in June on the water scheme to supply part of the parish of Mayfield and the parishes of Stanton, Wootton and Ellastone. In addition, a comprehensive scheme for Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Rocester was prepared and approved by the Ministry.

Housing and health go hand in hand. In a rural district the problem is not so acute as in urban areas, but in a rural area, as elsewhere, houses become unfit for human habitation and people must be rehoused if a satisfactory standard of housing is to be maintained. During 1959 a survey of housing needs in Abbots Bromley, Mayfield, Rocester and Marchington was carried out in anticipation of housing schemes being planned in these villages. It is hoped that special attention will be paid to the rehousing of the elderly, not as a separate entity but as part of the community. It is always distressing to have to move old people from houses in which they have spent perhaps the greater part of their lives, and it is not always easy to make them understand the reason for their removal. Every consideration therefore must be given to keeping them within the surroundings with which they are familiar, at the same time providing them with modern amenities and comforts which will help to make the eventide of their lives something to be enjoyed not endured.

Finally may I express my thanks to the staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation during the year and for the pleasant way in which they carry out their duties.

My thanks are due also to my fellow officials whose assistance in compiling this report and throughout the year I greatly appreciate.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. M. DURKIN.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	.....	Acres, 55,228
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population (Mid 1959)	.....	11,570
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1959 accord- ing to the Rate Books	.....	3,120
Rateable Value	.....	£138,576
Sum represented by the product of 1d. rate	.....	£533
Number of persons per acre	.....	0.21
Number of houses per acre	.....	0.056
Average number of persons per house	.....	3.70

The Uttoxeter Rural District forms the shape of the letter 'C' with the Urban District of Uttoxeter nestling in the centre of its inner border, and Derbyshire lying adjacent to the north and south. On its outer border it is bounded by the Rural Districts of Leek, Cheadle, Stafford and Lichfield.

The district, comprising seventeen parishes, forms a slice of the most fertile part of Staffordshire, and is aptly described by the phrase 'a green and pleasant land.'

The administrative offices are situated in the township of Uttoxeter, which is also the shopping and marketing centre for the Rural District.

The main concern of the district is farming, but alternative employment is offered at Mayfield by a silk mill, and at Rocester by a cotton mill and excavator vehicle factory. The latter is a growing concern which promises to attract more residents to the district.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

<i>Live births (Factor 1.12)</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	90	81	171
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	2	1	3
				—	—	—
				92	82	174
Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated population						15.1
Adjusted birth rate						16.8
Illegitimate live births per cent total live births						1.7
<i>Stillbirths</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				1	1	2
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births						11.3
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated population						0.17
Total Live and Still Births						176
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</i>						
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	4	2	6
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				4	2	6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births						34.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births						35.1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births						0.0
<i>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</i>						
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				2	2	4
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)						22.9
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age</i>						
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	2	3
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				1	2	3
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						17.2
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)						28.4
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)						Nil
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births						0.0
<i>Deaths (Factor 1.11)</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
				69	54	123
Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population						10.6
Adjusted death rate						11.7

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Uttoxeter Rural District 1959

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	7	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2	2
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	8	20
Coronary disease, angina	8	4	12
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Other Heart Diseases	8	14	22
Other circulatory diseases	2	1	3
Influenza	4	1	5
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	7	1	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	3	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	4	9
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	69	54	123

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1952 to 1959

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 estimated Population</i>			<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</i>
	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Stillbirth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Infant Death Rate</i>
1959	15.1	0.17	10.6	34.5
1958	16.4	0.79	9.3	32.2
1957	11.4	0.70	9.16	61.5
1956	15.00	0.26	9.2	17.1
1955	16.06	0.26	8.9	22.3
1954	14.7	0.36	9.09	30.3
1953	13.4	0.17	7.9	26.17
1952	15.93	0.26	8.2	60.1

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1959 and 1958 WITH THOSE FOR ENGLAND and WALES FOR THE SAME YEARS

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Estimated Population</i>			<i>Rate per 1000 Live Births</i>
		<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Stillbirth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Infant Death Rate</i>
Uttoxeter Rural District	1959	15.1	0.17	10.6	34.5
	1958	16.4	0.79	9.3	32.2
England and Wales	1959	16.5	0.35	11.6	22.0
	1958	16.4	0.36	11.7	22.5

CANCER DEATHS

Noted below are the total annual deaths from cancer according to sex with regard to your District during 1959 and the 9 previous years. The percentage which these Cancer deaths form of the total deaths is also shown.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Deaths</i>
1959	12	10	22	17.8
1958	11	7	18	16.9
1957	13	11	24	21.8
1956	5	15	20	19.2
1955	8	5	13	13.0
1954	6	10	16	15.8
1953	6	6	12	13.3
1952	6	4	10	10.4
1951	8	7	15	6.1

Summary of Site of Cancer

Stomach	.....	3 males and 1 female
Breast	.....	nil
Other Sites	.....	7 males and 7 females
LUNGS AND BRONCHUS		2 males and 1 female

HOSPITALS, TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Hospitals

There are no hospitals in the Uttoxeter Rural District, and, as in previous years, the arrangements in this connection were as follows :—

Infectious Diseases

The majority of cases of infectious diseases in this district are, when necessary, admitted to Bucknall Isolation Hospital.

General Medical and Surgical Cases

Patients suffering from medical and surgical conditions, on account of which they require to be admitted to hospital, go mainly to the infirmaries at Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford and Burton-on-Trent. Whereas under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary at Derby was included in the Sheffield Hospital Region, the other three infirmaries referred to above were situated in the Birmingham Hospital Region. Nevertheless, it is possible for patients from Uttoxeter to be admitted to any of these hospitals irrespective of the administrative boundary.

Maternity and Gynaecological Cases

These cases are mainly admitted to the Derbyshire Hospital for Women, The North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent ; The Ashbourne Maternity Home and to Burton Maternity Unit.

Geriatric Cases

Old people suffering from chronic illnesses and in need of care and attention are admitted to Fernleigh Hospital, Stafford ; Trent House, Stone ; Ivy House, Cannock ; and occasionally to the Geriatric Unit, Bucknall.

Tuberculosis Dispensary

Most patients attend the Stafford Centre by appointment, but all are visited in their homes by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Some attend Burton Clinic.

Minor Ailments Clinic

The Local Education Authority, the Staffordshire County Council, during 1958, continued to provide a Minor Ailment Clinic. The Clinic is held at Heath House on Friday mornings.

Infant Welfare Centre

The Staffordshire County Council, during 1959, as the Local Health Authority, provided an Infant Welfare Clinic in Uttoxeter. Sessions are held on each Friday afternoon at Heath House.

Ante-Natal Clinic

The Ante-Natal Clinic is also provided by the Staffordshire County Council. Sessions were held fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons at Heath House during 1959.

Domestic Help Service

The Service is provided by the Local Health Authority under permissive powers deriving from Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

In your district 44 cases were assisted by 16 Helps during the year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

Laboratory Facilities

This district is served by the Public Health Laboratory in Stafford, which is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

Samples and specimens submitted by general practitioners and by the Public Health Department are examined and reported on. An advisory service is also available in the event of the outbreak of an infectious disease such as food poisoning and on these occasions the helpful advice of the Director, Dr. Mackay-Scollay, is much appreciated.

Ambulance Facilities

(An Area Health Function)

A 24 hour Ambulance Station is maintained in Uttoxeter by the Staffordshire Ambulance Service ; this has been under Radio Control since 1956. During 1959 the Station was manned by a personnel of 17 men.

Home Nursing

(An Area Health Function)

The service is carried out by the District Nurses and one Nurse is available for each of the parishes as follows :—

- (i) Okeover, Stanton, Mayfield, Wootton, Ramshorn and Ellastone.
- (ii) Rocester and Denstone.
- (iii) Leigh, Kingstone (Gratwich only) and Croxden.
- (iv) Uttoxeter Rural and Kingstone (except Gratwich).
- (v) Abbots Bromley and Blithfield.
- (vi) Marchington, Draycott-in-the-Clay and Newborough.

In most cases the nurse undertakes the duties of a general nurse, and midwife, and in some cases also carries out the duties of a Health Visitor and of School Nurse in the parish for which they are responsible.

Since 1954 the nursing services for the parishes of Abbots Bromley and Blithfield have been undertaken by the following nurses :—

- (i) Nurse Dunn of Abbots Bromley for General and Midwifery Services in the village and for Blithfield.
- (ii) Nurse Francis of Stramshall, Health Visiting for the parishes of Abbots Bromley and Blithfield.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Reference has already been made in the preamble to this report to the incidence of infectious disease in the district during 1959.

No confirmed cases of food poisoning, poliomyelitis or diphtheria occurred during the year. Although no confirmed cases of food poisoning occurred seven cases of suspected food poisoning were investigated on notification by the general practitioner. Sampling was carried out in every case but laboratory tests failed to isolate a pathogen and the diagnosis was not confirmed.

There were only three cases of Whooping Cough notified to the Health Department and five cases of Scarlet Fever. The latter was an appreciable reduction from the sixteen cases notified the previous year.

The epidemic of Measles which occurred was widespread throughout the district with the first cases appearing in Mayfield and thereafter spreading south. Very few parishes escaped this infection. Seven cases were notified in January, and the incidence was maintained during the year, the highest number of cases occurring in the month of May.

Measles is a virus infection of childhood. The disease is spread by close contact and the infectivity is high. It tends to show a recurring peak of incidence, so that the epidemic, which was widespread throughout the country, was not altogether unexpected. The mortality rate happily is low, but unfortunately there was one death in the district due to a complication of the disease.

Measles is akin to the distemper which attacks puppies, and since injections against distemper have been given for a number of years, it has been said that it is high time our children had ' a dog's chance ' of escaping Measles. We can now give protection against most diseases of childhood ; perhaps Measles will now claim the attention of experts in the prophylactic field.

A minor epidemic of Influenza occurred in the early months of 1959, but since this disease is not notifiable, the exact number of cases is not known. Unfortunately five deaths due to influenza or its complications are recorded, a sharp reminder to us that the disease is no respecter of persons, and that continuing to work and move around with aching limbs, headache and a raised temperature not only exposes our companions and fellow workers to infection but can produce grave consequences for ourselves.

Finally, tuberculosis—for yet another year no deaths due to this one-time killer were recorded in your district. Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. Both these cases are males and both are making a satisfactory response to treatment.

During 1959 the number of corrected notifications received with respect to the various infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis was as follows :

<i>Infectious Diseases</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>
Measles	209	—
Scarlet Fever	5	—
Whooping Cough	3	—
Acute Pneumonia	1	—
Food Poisoning	—	—
Dysentery	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
	220	—

Infectious Diseases—Incidence in 1959 compared with the previous four years

<i>Disease</i>	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Measles	209	35	33	15	349
Scarlet Fever	5	16	6	—	10
Whooping Cough	3	—	22	29	11
Acute Pneumonia	1	1	2	3	2
Food Poisoning	—	9	7	2	4
Dysentery	1	1	3	25	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	19
Erysipelas	—	1	1	2	2
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	2	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.
AGE PERIOD IN YEAR, 1959 — CORRECTED

	Under 1 year	1—2 years	3—4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years and over	Age Un- known	Totals	Total
Measles	M. F. 1 6	M. F. 24 16	M. F. 26 21	M. F. 51 48	M. F. 5 9	M. F. — —	M. F. 1 1	M. F. — —	M. F. 108 101	209
Scarlet Fever	— —	— —	1 —	2 1	— —	— 1	— —	— —	3 2	5
Whooping Cough	— 1	— —	1 —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 2	3
Food Poisoning	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Acute Pneumonia	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— 1	1
Erysipelas	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Acute Poliomyelitis										
(Paralytic)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
(Non-Paralytic)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Dysentery	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— 1	1
Paratyphoid	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Ophthalmia	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— 1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Diphtheria	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Abortus Fever	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Acute Encephalitis	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—

Table giving names of Parishes and the number of houses and approximate population which each contains, along with the incidence of infectious disease in each Parish, during 1959.

No. of Houses in 1951 Census	Name of Parish	No. of Ho'ses	Population of Parish, Dec., 1959	INFECTIOUS DISEASE.						Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Dysentery	Ophthalmia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Diphtheria
				Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas							
339	Abbots Bromley	358	1,434	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
76	Blithfield	80	310	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
71	Croxden	76	204	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
162	Denstone	178	634	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
148	Draycott-in-the-Clay	173	940	17	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
86	Ellastone	97	296	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
89	Kingstone	116	375	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
201	Leigh	275	948	38	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
206	Marchington	213	800	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
386	Mayfield	494	2,071	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
139	Newborough	157	575	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Okeover	14	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	Ramshorn	17	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
363	Rocester	430	1,341	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
63	Stanton	68	265	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
276	Uttoxeter Rural	329	1,101	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
38	Wootton	45	152	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2,672	TOTALS	3,120	11,570	209	5	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—

Infectious Disease 1959—Months of Occurrence.

Month	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Acute Pneu- monia	Food Pois- oning	Erysipelas	Acute Polio- myelitis		Dysen- tery	Para- typhoid	Ophthalmia	P. Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Diphtheria
							Paralytic	Non- Paralytic						
Jan.	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Feb.	5	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mar.	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Apr.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	44	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aug.	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sept.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oct.	24	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nov.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dec.	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	209	5	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—

For your information I give details regarding infectious diseases in the Rural Districts of Staffordshire (1)—1959. — Corrected Cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Ty- phoid Fever and Paraty- phoid	Acute Primary Pneu- monia	Dysen- tery	Acute Poliomyelitis		Food Poison- ing	Tuberculosis		
						Para- lytic	Non- Para- lytic		Lung	C.N.S.	Other
1st Quarter	57	—	—	78	7	—	—	2	19	—	4
2nd Quarter	40	—	—	16	33	1	—	21	18	—	3
3rd Quarter	17	—	—	11	10	3	1	4	21	—	3
4th Quarter	78	1	—	19	3	1	—	1	16	1	1
TOTALS FOR 1959	192	1	—	124	53	5	1	28	74	1	11
TOTALS FOR 1958	192	—	1	79	110	4	6	24	76	2	7

TUBERCULOSIS

Two notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were received during the year.

There were no deaths due to pulmonary tuberculosis.

The table below shows new cases and deaths due to Tuberculosis, classified as pulmonary and non-pulmonary, in the Uttoxeter Rural District for each of the last five years.

Year	Popula- tion	New Cases		Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000,000 Population
		Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
1959	11,570	2	—	—	—	—
1958	11,310	1	—	—	—	—
1957	11,350	—	—	—	—	—
1956	11,260	2	1	—	—	—
1955	11,150	—	—	—	—	—

Death Rate from Tuberculosis per 1,000 population

Year	Uttoxeter	England and Wales
1959	—	0.078
1958	—	0.106

DIPHTHERIA

There have been no cases of Diphtheria notified in the Uttoxeter Rural District since 1955. The following table gives the incidence of Diphtheria and deaths due to the disease in the Uttoxeter Rural District compared with England and Wales since 1955.

	Uttoxeter		England and Wales	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1959	—	—	103	—
1958	—	—	79	8
1957	—	—	40	—
1956	—	—	51	—
1955	19	—	161	13

Diphtheria Immunisation

Under the National Health Scheme, 1946, this responsibility passed to the Local Health Authority, upon which is laid the

obligation to arrange for the immunisation of all persons in the area of the Authority (Section 26).

As in previous years it was possible in 1959 for parents to have their children immunised by their own family doctor free of charge. Immunisation was also available at the Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter. Special immunising sessions were also held at the various schools in the Uttoxeter Rural District.

The following table gives the number of children from Uttoxeter Rural District who received protection against Diphtheria during 1959 :—

	<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>1—4 years</i>	<i>5—14 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary Doses	84	49	36	169
Booster Doses	—	—	107	107

Diphtheria Immunisation since 1955

Year	Number of Protected Children		Total	Number of children receiving reinforcing doses
	Under 4yr.	4—14 years		
1959	133	36	169	107
1958	79	76	155	148
1957	113	6	119	76
1956	125	39	164	97
1955	98	36	134	135

WHOOPING COUGH

Three cases of Whooping Cough were notified in the Uttoxeter Rural District in 1959.

The incidence in previous years is shown in the following table :—

	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of notifications received for Whooping Cough	3	—	22	29

Whooping Cough Immunisation

In 1959 105 children received protection against Whooping Cough.

	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of children protected against Whooping Cough	105	63	79	96

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The number of vaccinations carried out in Uttoxeter Rural District are as follows :—

	<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>1 yr.</i>	<i>2—4 yrs.</i>	<i>5—14 yrs.</i>	<i>Over 15 yrs.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary Vaccinations	80	7	1	5	4	97
Re-Vaccinations	—	—	—	—	17	17

	1959	1958	1957	1956
No. of primary vaccinations (all ages)	97	85	79	88

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The year 1959 was a memorable one with regard to the fight against yet another infectious disease, namely poliomyelitis.

Protection against Poliomyelitis was first offered to children and expectant mothers in 1956, when the Staffordshire County Council inaugurated the scheme under their arrangements for vaccination and immunisation.

Towards the end of 1958 the scheme was extended to include the 15 to 25 age group. The response, despite publicity, was disappointing.

Then in April 1959, a well known young footballer unfortunately contracted the disease and died. The effect of this untimely death was instantaneous and dramatic. Teenagers, from being apathetic and indifferent, became interested and even anxious to receive protection.

Evening sessions were held and large numbers of young people attended.

By the end of the year 1,006 children and young persons had received the primary course of injections.

In addition 815 people received their 3rd injection against poliomyelitis.

This scheme of protection against poliomyelitis for children

and young persons has been fraught with difficulties administratively.

Tribute must be paid to your General Practitioners, Health Visitors, and all those whose enthusiasm and hard work have contributed greatly to the success of the scheme, also to the clerical staffs who have coped so well with the many difficulties and with the extra work involved.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

WATER SUPPLY

No progress has been made with the regrouping of Water Undertakings, although representatives of both the Uttoxeter Authorities met representatives of the Ministry towards the end of the year, to put forward their views for consideration, to be given for amalgamation with the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co.

Mayfield

Supply was fully maintained throughout the dry summer months without having cause to economise in the use of water for gardens, and car washing etc. Water was carted by a number of farmers within and outside the district during the summer months.

Mayfield (Part of), Stanton, Wootton and Ellastone

The comprehensive scheme to supply the above parishes has been approved, and work commenced in June.

The estimated cost of the scheme is £97,300 and consists of—

Source : Existing boreholes at Middle Mayfield with combined yield of 9,500 gallons per hour.

Additional reservoir capacity 150,000 galls. T.W.L., 512-ft. A.O.D., at Upper Mayfield on site adjoining the existing Reservoir (50,000 galls.)

Automatic booster station to pump the supply to new reservoir at Stanton (capacity 70,000 galls. T.W.L., 1050-ft. A.O.D.).

The 4in. main between the booster station and Stanton reservoir will be a combined pumping and distribution main, and approximately 9½ miles of 3in. and 4in. distribution mains will be laid to supply the three parishes.

Good progress has been made on the main laying, with two properties in the Middle Mayfield area already receiving a supply.

When the scheme is completed mains supply will be available for an additional 278 houses, 110 farms and 22 other buildings.

Leigh

Bulk supply from Cheadle Rural District Council.

The prolonged dry summer caused a serious shortage of water during periods of peak demand in the day, viz. 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The excessive consumption in Leigh has caused hardship to certain properties in the Hollington area of the Cheadle Rural District Council, and due to the circumstances above, it has not been possible to instal a booster to improve the supply for Middleton Green and the Morrilow Heath area.

The supply remained adequate during the night time.

Field, Birchwood Park, Gratwich and Scounslow Green Area

A comprehensive scheme is being prepared to cover the above area, the source being a bulk supply from the Uttoxeter Urban District Council.

A preliminary estimate for providing a mains supply for this area is given as £59,000.

Stramshall

Bulk supply from the Uttoxeter Urban District Council and the Village itself is adequately served, but the higher reaches of Hollington Lane has no mains supply.

The alternative supply mentioned in my last report has proved abortive and the original scheme suggested will be given further consideration when the Urban District Council have extended their trunk main to Uttoxeter.

Okeover and Ramshorn

Ministry permission has been granted to the Ashbourne Rural District Council to serve Okeover Hall and four cottages from their existing mains nearby, and the supply has been connected.

The Council has agreed to extend the existing mains at Hanging Bridge along Birdsgrove Lane, to supply five farms belonging to the Okeover Estate. The work is now in hand.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Abbots Bromley

The new scheme, having been in use now for about 18 months, is functioning very satisfactorily.

Rocester

A comprehensive scheme for Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for this Village has been prepared and approved at an estimated cost of £63,800 and it is hoped that a start will be made on the scheme early in the New Year.

The scheme will be on similar lines to the one completed at Abbots Bromley last year.

The Council is also considering the question of draining the Village of Denstone for treatment at the Rocester works, rather

than enlarge the existing works at Denstone. It is felt that this would be advantageous from the point of maintenance and full-time supervision.

Mayfield

The Council has instructed their Consultant Engineers to prepare a comprehensive scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal for the Village, with a view to the work following on from the Rocester scheme.

SWIMMING FACILITIES AT ABBOTS BROMLEY

The Rural District Council again accepted the generous offer of the School Authorities of S. Mary and S. Anne, Abbots Bromley, to make their Swimming Pool available for use of the General Public during the summer holiday period.

The pool is a modern open-air one with all the usual facilities.

It was available to the public (adults and children of both sexes) each day for the period 31st July to 7th September, inclusive as follows :—

Weekdays—10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sundays—2 p.m. to 5 p.m., 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A small charge of 1/- for adults and 6d. for children was made for admission to any session, either for bathers or spectators, to meet the cost of supervision and maintenance of plant.

Full advantage was taken of the facilities offered, and the exceptionally dry summer added to the enjoyment.

3,673 adults and 5,682 children paid admission to the Pool during the period.

The following is a sample taken from the Swimming Bath at the School of S. Mary and S. Anne, Abbots Bromley.

Chemical Analysis

pH value	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.0
				parts per 100,000	
Total solid matter dried at 212°F					114.0
Free and saline ammonia.....	.....				0.163
Albuminoid	.....	.....	.....		0.140
Nitric nitrogen	.....	.....	.....		0.70
Chlorine present as chloride	.....				43.2
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 8°F					0.233
Appearance	.....	.....	.....		Clear and colourless
					Very slight trace of suspended matter
Metallic contamination	.....	.....			nil
Free residual chlorine	.....	.....			0.02 parts per million
Combined residual chlorine	.....				1.98 „ „ „
Total residual chlorine	.....	.....			2.00 „ „ „

HOUSING

Abbots Bromley

The Council has approved a scheme for 30 x 3-bedroomed houses and 11 x two-bedroomed bungalows, for the re-housing of slum property.

Tenders have been received and the building work will commence early in the New Year.

Rocester and Mayfield

The Council is negotiating for the acquisition of eight acres of land at Rocester and one acre at Mayfield for building purposes.

The Council also has under consideration the question of the erection of three-storey buildings comprising flats and maisonnettes in the above areas, in order to conserve the use of agricultural land.

Number of Applicants on Waiting List at beginning of 1959

Abbots Bromley	.....	22	Leigh	.....	8
Blithfield	.....	3	Marchington	.....	25
Denstone	.....	10	Mayfield	.....	22
Draycott	.....	20	Newborough	.....	9
Kingstone	.....	5	Rocester	.....	35
		Uttoxeter Rural	.....	28	
TOTAL 187					

Number of Applicants on Waiting List at end of 1959

Abbots Bromley	.....	42	Leigh	.....	11
Blithfield	.....	3	Marchington	.....	28
Denstone	.....	10	Mayfield	.....	26
Draycott	.....	19	Newborough	.....	8
Kingstone	.....	8	Rocester	.....	42
		Uttoxeter Rural	.....	28	
TOTAL 225					

During the year the accommodation of a large number of Applicants in all parts of the Rural District were inspected and whilst these visits confirmed the living conditions of the many families visited, it also resulted in the cancellation of a number of other applications submitted by people who had removed in the meantime.

Nevertheless the overall number of applications continued to increase in nearly all Parishes, the most notable increase being shewn at Abbots Bromley where of course the next lot of Council Houses will be erected.

During the year, casual vacancies were very few as shewn below :

Kingstone	.....	1	Newborough	.....	1
Leigh	.....	1	Mayfield	.....	2
Draycott	.....	1	Denstone	.....	1
		Uttoxeter Rural	.....	1	
TOTAL 8					

Four of these vacancies were re-let to families living in Slum Clearance property.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

The arrangement made between the Uttoxeter Rural and Urban District Councils means that your Health Inspectors continue to carry out inspectorial duties for the two areas.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Inspections—Summary of Visits

Inspection of houses for defects and also re : Rent Act, 1957	85
Inspection of houses re : Application for Council houses	12
Re-inspection of houses regarding repairs	51
Visits to houses (Slum Clearance)	88
Inspection of Tents, Vans and Sheds	25
Verminous and Dirty Premises	12
Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage work	68
Meat Inspection	354
Food Premises—Ice Cream	18
Other Foods	36
Catering Establishments.....	4
School Canteens	3
Licensed Premises	20
Visits re : Milk supply	6
Slaughterhouses and Slaughterman's Licences	16
Knacker Yards	8
Infectious Diseases	12
Food Poisoning, Enquiries, etc.	20
Visits re : Water Supply	47
Ditches and Water Courses	42
Public Cleansing Service (including Tip supervision)	211
Accumulation of Refuse	19
Nightsoil Collection Service	83
Rodent Control	37
Keeping of Animals	7
Factories (including Bakehouses)	20
Factories Act, 1937—Fire Escapes.....	3
Smoke Abatement	22
Other Nuisances	15
Miscellaneous Visits	29
TOTAL.....	1,373

Notices Served

<i>Notices served during Year</i>	<i>No. Served</i>	<i>No. Complied with (Served 1959 and previously)</i>
Informal notices and letters as to general matters	20	16
Verbal notices as to general matters	13	13
Informal notices to provide dustbins	8	8
<i>Statutory Notices :</i>		
(a) Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil
(b) Public Health Act, 1936	Nil	Nil

Complaints received and dealt with during the year

Total number received	29
General Disrepair of Dwellings	5
Others	24

Water Supply

Water samples have been taken regularly for Bacteriological examination and Chemical analysis, and the following Table shows the result of such sampling.

<i>Source</i>	<i>No. of Samples taken for Bacteriological examination and Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>RESULTS</i>		
		<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Doubt- ful</i>
Wells (Private)	16	3	8	5
„ (Public)	—	—	—	—
Springs (Private)	14	2	5	7
„ (Public)	—	—	—	—
<i>Mains Supply :</i>				
(a) Public	6	6	—	—
(b) Private	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	36	11	13	12

Sample of Water from 5, Ashlea Drive, Mayfield—Public Supply

Bacteriological Examination Report :—

Date and hour of collection 11.6.59..... 12 noon

Probable number of coliform bacilli,

MacConkey 2 days at 37°C. Nil per 100 ml.

Chemical Analysis :—

pH	.....	7.3
		parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter Dried at 212°F	.....	30.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	.....	Nil
Albuminoid	.....	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	.....	0.20
Chlorine present as Chloride	.....	1.4
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	.....	Nil
Appearance	.....	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	.....	Nil
Free Chlorine	.....	Nil

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

It has been possible to continue a fortnightly collection from approximately 3,000 dwellings (3,100 bins), and this service is afforded to all properties having a reasonably good access road. Six men are engaged on this work, and on tip levelling and maintenance work.

Two modern type low loading refuse vehicles (12 cu.yd. capacity) are used on this work, with a tipper lorry as an auxiliary vehicle. A total of 16,600 miles was covered during the year.

Refuse disposal continued along the lines of the previous year, the extreme northern part of the district being served by a refuse tip at Clifton, which is outside the Uttoxeter Rural District Council area. By arrangement with the Ashbourne Rural District Council, a portion of their Clifton tip is used thus avoiding a long haul to the tip at Denstone.

During 1959 the main refuse tips at Denstone and Abbots Bromley were used, together with smaller tips at Marchington, Leigh and Uttoxeter Rural.

As far as is practicable, tipping is "controlled," and every effort is made to maintain the tips in a hygienic condition and free from insect and rat infestation.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION SERVICE

Due to the increase in the number of pails emptied, and large travelling involved, it is possible only to maintain an 8-day collection service. There are, however, bound to be some lapses, as one day per month the vehicle is garaged for greasing, washing, etc.

The vehicle used is an 800 gallon cesspool emptying machine, fitted with hopper attachment, and to maintain the ever-increasing pail emptying, it is not possible to carry out cesspool emptying.

Approximately 1,100 pails are emptied regularly, and for this purpose the vehicle travelled 11,000 miles during the year.

24 Pails from properties within the Uttoxeter Urban District are emptied weekly, and your vehicle is also used for the emptying of pails and tanks at Uttoxeter Racecourse—the cost of all such work is chargeable upon the Urban District Council.

HOUSING

Pending the provision of adequate mains water and sewage disposal, there has been an enforced delay in the Slum Clearance programme.

The provision of houses at Abbots Bromley next year will help to speed up the programme, and the completion of the Rocester Sewerage Scheme will allow of development in that Parish.

The following shows the progress made during 1959.

Houses represented as being unfit for human habitation	5
Undertaking given not to re-let	5
(4 relate to houses represented in 1958)	
Demolition Orders made	4
Houses demolished	5

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections
(1) Non-Mechanical	2	2
(2) Mechanical Factories	38	17
TOTAL	40	19

Outworkers.

There are now no outworkers in this district.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During 1959 your Public Health Inspectors made 25 visits in connection with licensed caravans, and caravans temporarily stationed in the area.

In the year two licensed caravans moved from the district, eight new licences were granted, and 3 licences were renewed for a further 12 months.

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of Food Inspected during 1959

Meat : Carcases inspected and condemnations made.

	Cows and Bulls	Heifers and Bullocks	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and notified	3	293	1	3,409	239
Number inspected	3	293	1	3,409	239
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	—	2	—
Part or organ „	3	92	—	240	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticercosis	100%	31.7%	—	7%	6.2%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Part or organ „	—	8	—	—	2
Percentage of the number affected	—	3%	—	—	.83%
Cysticercosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Weight of meat condemned for Tuberculosis = 836 lbs.

Weight of meat condemned for other diseases = 2,301 lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned = 3,137 lbs.

Tons Cwts. Qts. lbs.
= 1 8 0 1

RODENT CONTROL

A rodent operative is employed for duties in both the Rural and Urban areas and works under the supervision of your Public Health Inspectors.

Throughout the district a free service of rat disinfestation is afforded for residential property, while the cost of the work at business premises is rechargeable.

Number of Infestations found and dealt with during 1959—

(a) Private dwellings (including Council houses)	338
(b) Business Premises	13
(c) Refuse Tips (Local Authority)	25
(d) Sewage Works (Local Authority)	40

Sewer Treatment

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the treatment of sewers was carried out to ascertain any evidence of rat infestation.

The following tables show the results obtained.

May, 1959

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Manholes treated</i>	<i>Complete take of test bait</i>	<i>Partial take</i>	<i>No take</i>
Abbots Bromley	7	1	2	4
Denstone	2	—	—	2
Rocester	9	3	2	4
Mayfield	5	—	—	5

October, 1959.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Manholes treated</i>	<i>Complete take of test bait</i>	<i>Partial take</i>	<i>No take</i>
Abbots Bromley	6	—	—	6
Rocester	10	4	3	3
Mayfield	7	1	2	4

FARM SURVEY FOR RAT INFESTATION

During the year 129 farms were visited to ascertain any rat infestation and of this number 38 were found to be infested. Thirty-seven were dealt with by the Council's operative, and the other by the farmer concerned.

During 1959 contracts were entered into for dealing with rat infestations at nine farms and three other business premises.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1959

The results of examination of milk for cleanliness efficient pasteurisation and sterilisation and presence of tuberculous organisms were as follows :-

Results of Milk Samples taken during 1959

<i>Test</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Methylene Blue	149	136	—	13
Phosphatase Test	121	121	—	—
Turbidity Test	39	39	—	—
Biological Test	8	8	—	—

These results are very satisfactory in that no samples failed the tests.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1959

Number of Distributors of milk in the Uttoxeter Rural District Council area	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Number licensed to sell—						
(a) Tuberculin Tested milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
(b) Pasteurised milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
(c) Sterilised milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Within the district are three slaughterhouses which are licensed for use until the 31st July, 1960.

These premises have proved adequate for the needs of the rural area, and as a result of regular visits for meat inspection, the slaughterhouses have been kept under constant supervision.

It is necessary that all slaughterhouses comply with the requirements of the “construction regulations” and such regulations will apply from a date to be confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Two of the slaughterhouses in the district can be brought to the required standard, but at the third premises, lack of space makes this impossible.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1958

In accordance with the above legislation 21 licences were granted during the year.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES, SHOPS, ETC.

Routine inspection of food preparing premises, shops, etc. has been carried out during the year, and due to the co-operation of shopkeepers and staff, all contraventions of the regulations have been dealt with by informal and verbal notices.

Where required by statute, the appropriate premises are registered, and these include 41 for the storage and sale of pre-wrapped Ice Cream, and seven for the preparation or manufacture of preserved food.

No Ice Cream is manufactured in the rural district, the commodity being “pre-wrapped and obtained from reputable firms.

The following table gives information relating to the results of sampling carried out by the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority for the district.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. of samples Submitted</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated or Mislabelled</i>
Milk	140	137	3
Pasteurised Milk	14	14	—
T.T. Milk	138	138	—
Channel Islands Milk	—	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised Milk	18	18	—
Sterilized Milk	8	8	—
Total Milk Samples	318	315	3
Steak and Onions	1	1	—
Blended Non-Brewed Condi- ment	1	1	—
Epsom Salts B.P.	1	1	—
Crab Paste	1	1	—
Plain Flour	1	1	—
Pure Lard	1	1	—
Apple Sauce	1	1	—
Glucose Orange Drink.....	1	1	—
Fancy Red Salmon	1	1	—
Cream of Tarter B.P.	1	1	—
Fruit and Cream Cake	1	1	—
Primula Crispbread	1	1	—
Whipped Cream	1	1	—
Kosher Margarine	1	1	—
Cleaned Currants	1	1	—
Total General Food Samples	15 (formal)	15 (formal)	—
Total No. of Samples	333	330	3

